

February 22, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District was held on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. via teleconference.

Present were: Gene Harrell, Vice-Chairman Chris Domangue
Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer Ray Mayet
Barry Soudelier Francis Richard
Dale Dennis

Absent were: Hugh Caffery, Chairman Donald Schwab
Jake Giardina Lance Authement
Scott LeBlanc

Also present were: Ryan Perque, FOBL; Josh Bordelon; Capt. Jake Stahl, Marine Expertise
Stephen Smith, All South Consulting Engineers; Alma Robichaux, BTNEP
Barry Marionneaux, Attorney; Ben Malbrough, Executive Director
Heather Armstrong, Administrative Assistant

Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell began the meeting at 5:00 pm

Moved by Commissioner Barry Soudelier, seconded by Commissioner Dale Dennis to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and approve the minutes of January 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard to approve the accounts payable report for February 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Francis Richard, seconded by Commissioner Ray Mayet to approve the finance report for February 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough reported that the pump station is operating normally but there is an issue with one of the pumps shaking a little. It is not disrupting operations but we are discussing a remedy to avoid any issues.

Mr. Malbrough reported that we had to close the Saltwater Control Structure in Lockport. The Bayou elevations are low throughout the Bayou. Notifications on Water Control Structure closings are updated on our website www.blfwd.org

Mr. Malbrough announced preparations for a public hearing in March to revise Ordinance No. 5. If we are unable to meet in person due to restrictions, the meeting will be pushed back until the restrictions are lifted.

Mr. Malbrough discussed the Pump Capacity Improvements Project. We are still navigating through the Environmental Compliance. We have completed the revisions on the report and submitted back to the USACE and SHPO. Once we get a response that the report is satisfactory, the mitigation process can hopefully begin.

Mr. Malbrough discussed the North Water Control Structure. The clear lien certificate has been received. There is a small issue on the hydraulic ram that we are working out with the contractor. Once resolved, we can complete the final acceptance and release final payment/retainage and close this project.

Mr. Malbrough announced that the Weir Removal Project is making progress. Completing modifications on the City of Thibodaux's intake pumps. Demolition should start mid- March and last until July.

Mr. Malbrough discussed Change Order No. 1 submitted on the Weir Removal Project to replace the existing impeller and blast & recoat the impeller casing. It is an increase of \$6,044.00 and 14 construction days and he recommends its approval.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Francis Richard to approve Change Order No. 1 as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough stated that a permit was submitted by Gregg Crawford to construct permanent steps to access a floating dock behind residence along the bank of Bayou Lafourche in Thibodaux, and he recommended approval of the permit.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, Seconded by Commissioner Dale Dennis to approve the permit as submitted by Gregg Crawford. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough stated that a permit was submitted by Charles Roe to replace the old bulkhead behind residence along the bank of Bayou Lafourche in Thibodaux, and he recommended approval of the permit.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, Seconded by Commissioner Dale Dennis to approve the permit as submitted by Charles Roe. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough stated that a permit was submitted by Bayou Rowing Association to construct a bulkhead and anchor access ramp to floating dock along the bank of Bayou Lafourche in Thibodaux, and he recommended approval of the permit.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, Seconded by Commissioner Dale Dennis to approve the permit as submitted by Bayou Rowing Association. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough stated that a permit was submitted by Blanca Muniz to construct a bulkhead along the bank of Bayou Lafourche in Thibodaux, and he recommended approval of the permit.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, Seconded by Commissioner Dale Dennis to approve the permit as submitted by Blanca Muniz. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough stated that a permit was submitted by William Cothren to construct a 16' x 16' deck along the bank of Bayou Lafourche in Thibodaux, and he recommended approval of the permit.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, Seconded by Commissioner Dale Dennis to approve the permit as submitted by William Cothren. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malbrough stated that a permit was submitted by Ronnie Ledet to construct a retention wall along the bank of Bayou Lafourche in Napoleonville, and he recommended approval of the permit.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, Seconded by Commissioner Dale Dennis to approve the permit as submitted by Ronnie Ledet. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ryan Perque gave an update on the Friends of Bayou Lafourche as follows:

- Nicholls Bayou side project construction has begun
- Napoleonville project CEA executed
- Raceland Visitor Center project
- St. Charles boat launch agreement moving along
- floating docks – 2 more being delivered soon
- updates to BLFWD website to show Water Control Structures status

Mr. Malbrough announced pump station operator, Rickey Munson, will be retiring at the end of March and we have begun advertising for his position.

Mr. Malbrough announced CEA with Ascension Parish Government for Donaldsonville Drainage Project has been approved. Once executed copy is received, the project can go out to bid.

Vice-Chairman Gene Harrell asked for any public comments.

Alma Robichaux with BTNEP announced Clean Up the Bayou on March 15, 2021. Also, Friends of Bayou Lafourche will take over the Bayou Clean Up in Fall 2021.

Moved by Commissioner Ray Mayet, seconded by Commissioner Dale Dennis to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Gene Harrell, Vice-Chairman

Greg Nolan, Secretary/Treasurer